



**National Center for
Interstate Compacts**
THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS



FSMTB®
FEDERATION OF STATE
MASSAGE THERAPY BOARDS

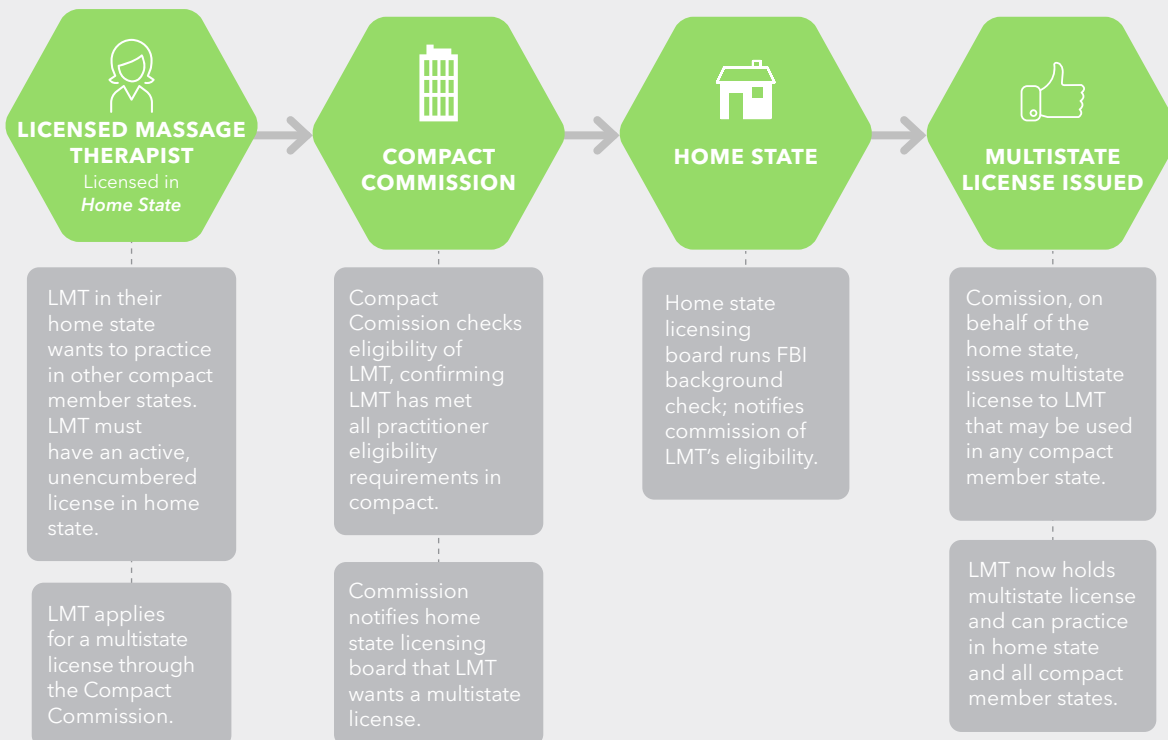
Impact Fact Sheet

Interstate Massage Therapy Compact

This project is funded by the Department of Defense

What is **Impact**?

Impact is an interstate occupational licensure compact. Interstate compacts are constitutionally authorized, legislatively enacted, legally binding agreements among states. Impact will enable licensed massage therapists to practice in all states that join the compact, rather than get an individual license in every state in which they want to practice. Like the compact for a driver's license, each compact member state agrees to mutually recognize the practitioner licenses issued by every other member state.



What other professions have an interstate compact?

Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC)

Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) and Advanced Practice Nurse Compact (APRN Compact)

Emergency Medical Service Officials Licensure Compact (EMS Compact)

Physical Therapists Licensure Compact (PT Compact)

Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT)

Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC)

Occupational Therapy Interstate Licensure Compact (OT Compact)

Counseling Interstate Licensure Compact

Who can use **IMpact**?

A massage therapist is eligible for a multistate license if they have:

- An active, unencumbered license in the compact member state in which they reside;
- Completed at least 625 clock hours of massage therapy education;
- Passed the national licensing examination; and
- No disqualifying criminal history.

A massage therapist who meets these requirements may be granted a multistate license which authorizes them to practice in all compact member states with no additional action needed. Massage therapists must observe the laws and rules of the state in which they practice.

BENEFITS OF **IMpact** FOR LICENSEES



Facilitates mobility for licensees



Expands employment opportunities into new markets



Improves continuity of care when massage therapists or clients relocate



Supports relocating military spouses and families



Reduces financial burden of applying for and maintaining multiple licenses

BENEFITS OF **IMpact** FOR REGULATORS



Reduces administrative burden



Facilitates mobility of practitioners during public health emergencies



Allows regulators to retain jurisdiction over licensees practicing in their state



Expands cooperation among state licensure boards on investigations and disputes



Enhances public safety through a shared interstate data system of licensure and disciplinary information

BENEFITS OF **IMpact** FOR STATES



Promotes workforce development and strengthens labor markets



Expands consumer access to highly qualified practitioners



Preserves state sovereignty



Improves access to massage therapy services

What's Next?

Interstate compacts take time to develop and implement because they enhance the mobility of massage therapists, preserve state sovereignty and facilitate the ability of state regulatory boards to coordinate and cooperate to protect the public.

Each state must enact the Massage Therapy Compact model legislation to join the compact. The Council of State Governments (CSG) will facilitate a stakeholder review process to receive input and feedback on the model legislation. The goal is for this legislation to be finalized for introduction during 2023 state legislative sessions.

To get involved in the stakeholder review process or learn more about advocating for the interstate compact, please visit <https://compacts.csg.org/compact-updates/massage-therapy/>